# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C.

In the Matter of:

Deltech Corporation
11911 Scenic Highway
Baton Rouge, LA 70807
USA

Docket No. TSCA-HQ-2015-5015

CIVIL COMPLAINT
and
NOTICE OF
OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

#### I. COMPLAINT

This Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing ("Complaint") is filed pursuant to section 16(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act ("TSCA"), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), and the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits ("Consolidated Rules of Practice"), 40 C.F.R. Part 22, a copy of which is enclosed with this Complaint. The Complainant is Gregory Sullivan, Acting Director, Waste and Chemical Enforcement Division, Office of Civil Enforcement, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA," the "Agency", or the "Complainant"), who has been duly delegated the authority to institute this action.

The Respondent is Deltech Corporation ("Deltech" or the "Respondent"), located at 1191 Scenic Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70807.

As a result of an EPA inspection on June 23, 2013, and its follow-up actions, Complainant alleges that Respondent has violated TSCA § 12(b), 15 U.S.C. § 2611(b), and the Notice of Export rule requirements at 40 C.F.R. Part 707, Subpart D, thereby violating TSCA §15(3)(B), 15 U.S.C. § 2614(3)(B) as set forth below.

#### COUNT I

- 1. Respondent is a "person" as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 720.3, and is subject to TSCA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
- 2. Respondent "manufactures" a "chemical substance" as defined respectively by section 3(7) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C § 2602(7), and section 3(2)(A) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C § 2602(2)(A).
- 3. Respondent manufactures a chemical substance, Benzene, ethenylethyl-, Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number 28106-30-1 (hereinafter "Chemical A"), that is subject to a proposed TSCA § 5(a)(2) Significant New Use Rule ("SNUR") [76 FR 65580 (October 21, 2011).
- 4. Respondent is an "exporter" as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 707.63(b).
- 5. Respondent exported the chemical substance cited in paragraph 3 on four (4) occasions to one (1) country without prior notification to the Agency as required by TSCA § 12(b), 15 U.S.C. § 2611(b), 40 C.F.R. § 707.60, and as specified in 40 C.F.R. §§ 707.65 and 707.67.
- 6. Respondent's failure to comply with the required export notice requirements of TSCA section 12(b), 15 U.S.C. § 2611(b), and 40 C.F.R. §§ 707.60, 65, and 67 violates

section 15(3)(B) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614(3)(B) and is subject to a civil penalty pursuant to section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a).

## II. <u>CIVIL PENALTY ASSESSMENT</u>

Section 16 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615, authorizes the assessment of a civil penalty for violations of TSCA section 15, 15 U.S.C. § 2614, in the maximum amount of \$25,000 for each day of violation. The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, requires EPA to adjust penalties to account for inflation. EPA's Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule establishes \$37,500 as the maximum civil penalty that may be assessed under TSCA section. For purposes of determining the amount of a civil penalty to be assessed, TSCA section 16(a)(2)(B), 15 U.S.C. § 2615 (a)(2)(B) requires EPA to take into account the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violations alleged, as well as Respondent's ability to pay, effect on ability to continue to do business, any history of prior such violations, the degree of culpability, and such other matters as justice may require. In developing a proposed penalty, Complainant took into account the particular facts and circumstances of this case.

Based upon the facts alleged in this Complaint, and upon the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violations alleged, as well as Respondent's ability to pay, effect on ability to continue to do business, any history of prior such violations of TSCA, the degree of culpability, and such other matters as justice may require, the Complainant proposes that Respondent be assessed a penalty of \$5,400 for the violations alleged in this Complaint.

# III. NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING

As provided in TSCA § 16(a)(2)(A), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a)(2)(A), and consistent with 40 C.F.R. § 22.15, Respondent has the right to request a formal hearing to contest any material fact set forth in this Complaint or to contest the appropriateness of the proposed penalty. To request a hearing, Respondent must file a written Answer to the Complaint with the Headquarters Hearing Clerk, within thirty (30) calendar days of service of this Complaint, at the following address:

Headquarters Hearing Clerk (1900R) United States Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20460

Any hearing requested will be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. § 551 *et seq.*, and the Consolidated Rules of Practice.

Pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.15, Respondent's Answer must clearly and directly admit, deny, or explain each of the factual allegations contained in the Complaint of which Respondent has any knowledge. Where Respondent has no knowledge of a particular factual allegation, the Answer should so state. The Answer should contain: (1) the circumstances or arguments which are alleged to constitute the grounds of any defense; (2) the facts which Respondent disputes; (3) the basis for opposing any proposed relief; and (4) a statement as to whether a hearing is requested. The denial of any material fact or the raising of any affirmative defense shall be construed as a request for a hearing. All material facts not denied in the Answer will be considered as admitted.

If Respondent fails to file a written Answer within thirty (30) calendar days of service of this Complaint, such failure shall constitute an admission of all facts alleged in the Complaint

and a waiver of Respondent's right to a hearing on such factual allegations. Failure to file a written Answer may result in Complainant's filing of a Motion for Default Order imposing the penalties herein without further proceedings.

A copy of Respondent's Answer and all other documents that Respondent files in this action should be sent to the attorney of record assigned to represent EPA in this matter:

Jessica Barkas, Esq.
Waste and Chemical Enforcement Division
Office of Civil Enforcement
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. (Mail Code 2249A)
Washington, D.C. 20460
Telephone: (202) 250-8880

E-mail: Barkas.Jessica@epa.gov

#### IV. INFORMAL SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

Whether or not Respondent requests a hearing, Respondent may confer informally with EPA to discuss the facts of this case, or amount of the penalty, and the possibility of settlement. An informal settlement conference does not, however, affect Respondent's obligation to file a timely written Answer to the Complaint.

EPA has the authority, where appropriate, to modify the amount of the penalty, once determined, to reflect any settlement reached with Respondent in an informal conference. The terms of such an agreement would be embodied in a Consent Agreement. A Consent Agreement signed by EPA and Respondent would be binding as to all terms and conditions specified therein upon issuance of a Final Order by the Environmental Appeals Board.

Please be advised that the Consolidated Rules of Practice prohibit any *ex parte* (unilateral) discussion of the merits of this action with the Administrator, the members of the

Environmental Appeals Board, the assigned Administrative Law Judge, or any person likely to advise these officials in the decision of the case, after the issuance of this Complaint. See 40 C.F.R. § 22.8.

### V. PAYMENT OF PENALTY

Instead of filing an Answer, requesting a hearing, or requesting an informal settlement conference, Respondent may choose to pay the proposed penalty to resolve this matter pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(a). Such payment should be made by sending either a cashier's or certified check with a notation of "Deltech Corporation" Penalty Docket No. TSCA-HQ-2015-5015," payable to the order of the "Treasurer, United States of America," to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Docket No. TSCA-HQ-2015-5015 Cincinnati Finance Center P.O. Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

 $\underline{\text{Or}}$ 

pay by wire transfer with a notation of "Deltech Corporation" Penalty Docket No. TSCA-HQ-2015-5015 by using the following instructions:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York ABA = 021030004 Account = 68010727 SWIFT address = FRNYUS33 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045 Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read: "D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency." A copy of the check or other instrument of payment should be sent to the attorney of record assigned to represent EPA in this matter.

# U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TSCA-HQ-2015-5015 In the Matter of: Deltech Corporation

By:

Gregory Sullivan, Acting Director

Waste and Chemical Enforcement Division

Office of Civil Enforcement

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the original of the foregoing Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, Docket No. TSCA-HQ-2015-5015 has been filed with the Headquarters Hearing Clerk and that a copy was sent certified mail, return receipt requested to:

Daniel C. Rutherford, Vice President Deltech Corporation 1191 Scenic Highway Baton Rouge, LA 70807

Carolyn Bernota, Enforcement Officer
Waste and Chemical Enforcement Division
Office of Civil Enforcement
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2249A)
Washington, DC 20460

9-25-2015 Data